

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OES-07 DOE-15
SOE-02 NRC-05 /104 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9229
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 06817

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLOG-
ICAL WEAPONS AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, ROUND
FOUR: SEVENTH (FINAL) PLENARY MEETING, MAY 4, 1978

REF: STATE 110409 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AT FINAL PLENARY MEETING OF ROUND FOUR OF
US-USSR NEGOTIATIONS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW), U.S.
SIDE PRESENTED REVISED ELEMENTS ON SCOPE AND DEFINITION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL. SOVIET
SIDE INDICATED THAT TIME WOULD BE NEEDED TO STUDY THE
NEW LANGUAGE. U.S. SIDE MENTIONED JULY 6 AS POSSIBLE
STARTING DATE FOR NEXT ROUND. SOVIET SIDE SAID CONSUL-
TATIONS WITH MOSCOW WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE THEY COULD
AGREE. TEXT OF A COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING END OF CURRENT
ROUND WAS AGREED AD REFERENDUM WITH DATE OF RELEASE TO
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BE AGREED SUBSEQUENTLY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE SEVENTH, AND FINAL PLENARY MEETING OF THE FOURTH
ROUND OF US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLOG-
ICAL WEAPONS (RW) AND NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW)
WAS HELD IN THE SOVIET MISSION ON MAY 4. NO MEETINGS ON
RW HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE THE SIXTH PLENARY ON FEBRUARY 28

DUE TO THE LESS THAN EXPEDITIOUS USG REVIEW OF THE NEW FORMULATION OF ELEMENTS ON SCOPE AND DEFINITION, PROPOSED BY U.S. DEL ON MARCH 3.

3. AMBASSADOR FISHER (HEAD OF U.S. DEL) PRESENTED TEXT OF FOUR NEW ELEMENTS TO REPLACE THE FIRST TWO OF PREVIOUS U.S. DRAFT. HE NOTED THAT THE FIRST NEW ELEMENT INCLUDES THE BASIC UNDERTAKING NOT TO DEVELOP, PRODUCE, STOCKPILE OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE OR POSSESS RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. IT IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS IN THE EARLIER TEXT EXCEPT THAT THE PROHIBITION AGAINST USE IS DEALT WITH IN A SEPARATE ELEMENT, AND THE PROHIBITION AGAINST ASSISTING OTHERS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED BY THE CONVENTION IS ALSO DEALT WITH IN A SEPARATE ELEMENT.

4. WITH RESPECT TO SECOND NEW ELEMENT, FISHER NOTED THAT U.S. SIDE HAD DROPPED THE WORD "NATURAL" WITH REFERENCE TO RADIOACTIVE DECAY AND HAD INTRODUCED THE TERM "DISSEMINATION" OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL. RATIONALE WITH RESPECT TO MEANS OF DELIVERY WAS ALSO PRESENTED. FISHER STRESSED U.S. INTENTION TO ENCOMPASS WITHIN RW BAN THE USE OF RADIATION FROM THE DECAY OF RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESTRUCTION OR INJURY, WHETHER THOSE ISOTOPES OCCUR NATURALLY OR ARE CREATED ARTIFICIALLY--EXCEPT AS PRODUCED BY A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICE.

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5. WITH RESPECT TO NEW ELEMENT THREE, FISHER NOTED THAT IT PROHIBITS USE OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND THE USE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS NOT DESIGNED AS A WEAPON, SUCH AS REACTOR WASTE PRODUCTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAUSING DESTRUCTION, DAMAGE, OR INJURY BY MEANS OF RADIATION PRODUCED BY ITS DECAY.

6. WITH RESPECT TO NEW ELEMENT FOUR, FISHER POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD BEEN MADE A SEPARATE ELEMENT FOR THE SAKE OF CLARITY SINCE IT CONTAINS AN UNDERTAKING NOT TO ASSIST ENCOURAGE, OR INDUCE OTHERS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED BY THE CONVENTION, AND SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE SPECIFIED IN TWO SEPARATE ELEMENTS.

7. FISHER SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE FOUR NEW ELEMENTS PROMPTLY AND THAT THE ONLY OTHER SIGNIFICANT QUESTIONS WHICH REMAIN TO BE SETTLED ARE THE FORMAT OF THE JOINT INITIATIVE AND THE PROVISION FOR CHALLENGE INSPECTIONS. HE STRESSED THAT WITH RESPECT TO FORMAT THE U.S. CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF THE TWO

SIDES TO PRESENT A FULLY ELABORATED DRAFT TREATY TEXT TO THE CCD. WITH RESPECT TO PROVIDING FOR CHALLENGE INSPECTION TO HELP RESOLVE DOUBTS WHICH MAY ARISE REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE TREATY, HE SAID THAT THE TYPES OF REQUESTS FOR ON SITE INSPECTION THAT WOULD BE CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY SPECIFIED. SUCH INSPECTIONS, HE SAID, SHOULD NOT INTRUDE ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

8. FISHER INDICATED THAT THE U.S. SIDE WOULD BE PREPARED TO HOLD FURTHER MEETINGS ON RW IN THE TIME AVAILABLE BEFORE THE END OF THE CCD, OR PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE

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SUMMER SESSION OF THE CCD (WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO START JULY 11).

9. AMBASSADOR LIKHATCHEV (HEAD OF SOVIET DEL) SAID THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD NEED TIME TO STUDY THE U.S. PROPOSALS. HE INDICATED A PREFERENCE FOR ENDING THE CURRENT ROUND AND STARTING A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE SUMMER. HE COMMENTED THAT "IF THE SOVIET SIDE HAD RECEIVED THE U.S. PROPOSALS SEVERAL WEEKS EARLIER, THE DELEGATIONS COULD BE RAISING A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE TO THE COMPLETION OF THE AGREEMENT RATHER THAN SIPPING MINERAL WATER AT THE END OF YET ANOTHER ROUND."

10. FISHER SAID THAT THE U.S. AND U.S.S.R. REPS SHOULD MEET, IN ANY CASE, PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE CCD SUMMER SESSION, PERHAPS ON JULY 6. IF THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO START THE NEXT RW ROUND AT THAT TIME, THE U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO.
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11. LIKHATCHEV SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH MOSCOW FIRST.

12. THE TWO DELEGATIONS REACHED AD REFERENDUM AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT OF A COMMUNIQUE FOR RELEASE AT A TIME TO BE AGREED SUBSEQUENTLY. AS IN THE PAST THE SOVIET SIDE WILL LIST NEW MDW FIRST, FOLLOWED BY RW, AND THE U.S. SIDE WILL LIST RW FIRST, FOLLOWED BY NEW MDW.

13. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, WE WILL AGREE TO RELEASE OF COMMUNIQUE AS SOON AS THE SOVIET SIDE RECEIVES APPROVAL. TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT:

DELEGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS MET IN GENEVA FROM 6 FEBRUARY TO 4 MAY 1978 TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PROHIBITION OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND NEW TYPES AND NEW SYSTEMS OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THE SIDES STATED ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO THE SOLUTION OF VARIOUS QUESTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION. THEY CONTINUED THE DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S.S.R. AND U.S.A. TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT AMBASSADOR V.I. LIKHATCHEV AND AMBASSADOR A. FISHER HEADED THE RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS. THE SIDES AGREED TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS AT A DATE TO BE AGREED. END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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